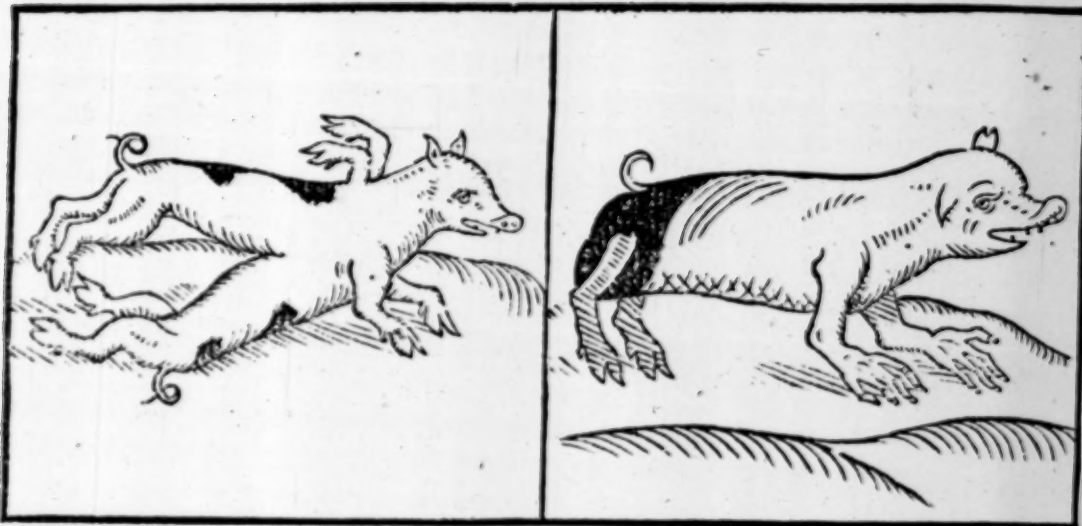


The Shape of ii. Mōsters. M. D. Lxij



His present yere of oure Lord God a thousande fīue hundred thze scoze and two, one Marke finkle a Joiner dwelling beside Charing crosse by Westminster had a Sow that brought forth one Pigge onely, vpon the seuenth of Maye beinge Ascension daye, the which Pigge had a head muche lyke vnto a Dolphines head with the left eare standing vp forked like as ye see in this picture aboue, and the right eare beinge like as it were halfe a litle leafe beinge deuided in the middes sharpe toward the end lying downward flat to the head without any holes into the headward. The two fore feet, like vnto handes, eche hande hauinge the long fingers and a thumbe, bothe the thumbes growinge on the out sides of the handes, the hinder legges growinge very much backwarde otherwise then the common natural forme hath ben seen, beeing of no good shape, but smaller frō the body to the middle Joint then they be from the same Joint toward the foot. And the taile growinge an Inche neare vnto the back then it doth of any that is of right shape. These straunge sights, the Almighty God sendeth vnto vs that we should not be forgetfull of his mighty power: nor vnthankful for his so greate mercies. The which hee theweth specially by geuing vnto vs his holy word wherby our liues ought to be guided and also his wonderful tokens wherby we are most gentilly warned.

But if we will not be warned, neither by his word, nor yet by his wonderful workes: then let vs be assured that these straunge monstrous sightes doe premonstrate vnto vs that his heauy indignacion wyl shortly come vpon vs for our monstrous lyuinge. Wherfore let vs earnestly pray vnto God that he wyl geue vs grace earnestly to repent our wickednes, faithfully to beleue his word: and sincerely to frame our liues after the doctrine of the same,

An Admonition vnto the Reader:



Et vs knowe by these vgly sightes,
and eke consider well:
That our God is the Lord of mightes,
who rules both heauen and hell.

By whose strong hand these monsters here,
were formed as ye see:
That it mighte to the world appers,
almightie him to bee.

Who might also vs men haue formed,
after a straunge deuise:
As by the Childe of late deformed,
appeareth in plaine wise.

What might these monsters to vs teach:
which now are sent so rife:
But that we haue Goddes wurd well preacht,
and will not mend our life.

At which straunge sightes we meruel muche,
when that we doe them see:
Yet can there not be found one suche,
That so will warned bee.

And loke what great deformitie,
In bodies ye beholde:
Much more is in our mindes truly,
an hundred thousand folde.

So that we haue great cause in deede,
Our sinnes for to confesse:
And eke to call to God with speede,
The same for to redresse.

Which if we wyl not sayle to doo,
and purely to repent:
He wyl no doubt, vs comfort so,
as shal our soules contente.

How sith our God so louing is,
and ready to forgieue:
Why doe we not abhorre all vice,
and onely to him cleaue.

Sith he also his hande can shake,
And sone destroy vs all,
Why doe we not then feare and quake,
And downe before him fall.

Why doe we not amend I saye,
Either for loue or feare:
Why dyne we of from day to daye,
And sinning not forbear.

Good labors of late tene we see,
Much sinne for to suppress:
God graunt that they fulfille maye bee,
To ouerthrow excelle.

Lord graunt vs also thy grace,
That by repentance pure:
In heauen to haue a dwelling place,
For euer to endure.

Amen. q. w. f.

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